



RECEIVED
MAY 07 2003
TC 1700

5/7/03
5/8/03

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 04329.2675

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Tsuyoshi SHIBATA) Group Art Unit: 1765
Application No.: 09/960,316 ✓) Examiner: Ahmed, S.
Filed: September 24, 2001)
For: METHOD FOR FORMING)
PATTERN)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action dated February 6, 2003, Applicant submits the following amendments and remarks. This response is due by May 6, 2003, and is timely filed.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 11, 15, 17, 18, and 20, without prejudice or disclaimer, amend claims 2, 6, 9, 10, 12, 16, and 19, and add new claims 21-23 as follows:

2. (Amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein said covering film contains one selected from the group consisting of silicon, Al, and Ti.

6. (Amended) The method according to claim 21, which further comprises heating the covering layer.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com